MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information required by the member is given below:—

Year.	*Amount.*
	Rs.
1099 ...	... 1,27,123
1100 ...	... 1,56,675
1101 ...	... 1,42,202

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): From the answer, it is seen that the income tax collected from merchants during 1101 has fallen. May I know from the member whether the Government attempted to enquire into the causes that led to that fall?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information is not now before the Government.

License for the Sale of Fish, Laurel Oil and Cocoanut Oil.

31. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*):

(1) Are the Government aware that, on the representation of the merchants of Shencotta, Dewan Bahadur Mr. M. Krishnan Nair, the then Dewan of Travancore, ordered that the trade in fish, laurel oil and cocoanut oil be conducted without obtaining any license therefor from the Excise Department?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state whether those orders are being carried out at present?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The answer is in the negative.

(2) In view of the answer to part (1), this question does not arise.

Indebtedness of the Travancore Ryots and the grant of Agricultural Loans.

32. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*):

(1) Will the Government be pleased to state how agricultural indebtedness in Travancore stands in relation to such indebtedness in the Madras Presidency?

(2) Are the Government aware that the loans given through co-operative societies, being only of short duration, do not serve the purpose of redeeming the prior accumulated indebtedness of the agriculturists?

(3) Are the Government aware that, in the several Provinces of British India and in Indian States, the Governments have organised and are organising Land Mortgage Banks with the object of enabling the agriculturists to redeem themselves from agricultural indebtedness?

(4) Will they be pleased to take urgent steps to organise Land Mortgage Banks in Travancore for the same purpose?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (1) The Government have no information.

(2) The Government incline to the view that the existing co-operative societies are able to relieve agricultural indebtedness to an

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly